

VIRTUAL PATH RESTORATION USING BEST EFFORT TECHNIQUES

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method and system is provided to reduce the time to restore links in a communication system. The method and system employ a preplanned backbone zone to eliminate downtime searches for alternate paths. Efficient use of restoration techniques assures that inter-zone routes are properly allocated. Alternate paths are chosen by calculating shortest paths from a root node to a target node. The shortest paths are placed in a table for lookup whenever a communication failure occurs. Considerations as to cost and length are taken into account in determining the alternative routes.